

Glenda Wiles

From: artist [artist@antlerchandelier.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2009 6:44 PM
To: Glenda Wiles; Chris Hoffman; George Corn; Carlotta Grandstaff
Cc: artist@antlerchandelier.com; petalpassion@blackfoot.net
Subject: BRHA contract

Dear County Commissioners and officers;

As a concerned citizen and active animal advocate I would like to add my insight into your consideration of a new contract with the BRHA. I have been extremely involved with the BRHA as a working volunteer; foster home care giver and attending most BRHA monthly board meetings.

I feel you should advertise in the county and consider bids from other facilities. The BRHA facility is inadequate. The cages are small. There are no indoor/outdoor runs. The dogs are walked outside once maybe twice a day while the kennels are cleaned. They are "understaffed and overworked" as said by Vicki Dawson at the November 2008 board meeting.

Dogs that have been seized and impounded for the county may be padlocked in a small cage for months while the case creeps through the court system. Surrendered animals that are BRHA property are euthanized when they become sick or go "kennel crazy".

I do not intend to minimize the service the BRHA provides for the community. They have an open-door policy and will not turn away any animal as stated in their by-laws. Their facility is still outdated and unfit for long term care. The mental and physical well being of your impounded animals are severely stressed. I strongly ask you to consider other animal care options to fill this need.

However you decide, I would also suggest a restructuring of the payment system. This brings to mind the fact that the BRHA has never had an outside independent audit as required in the 1984 contract. Their operating expenses at this time are a little short of a quarter of a million dollars a year. They have never had an outside independent audit and the board will not agree to one.

The BRHA annual members' meeting is March 24, 6:00 pm at the Senior Center. They will have the year end financial reports and statements and they may answer questions from the attendees.

I request to remain anonymous so there are no repercussions from Vicki Dawson or the BRHA board members. I care for the animals and want to do what I can for their welfare. You may phone me if you like at 961-2400 or e-mail at: artist@antlerchandelier.com

Thank you.

Sincerely, Jeanne McKinney